

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LA PAZ 07278 122120Z
ACTION INT-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 OES-07 L-03 SMI-01 CEQ-01

EPA-04 COME-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /043 W

-----065848 122129Z /12

P 122035Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7086

UNCLAS LA PAZ 7278

PLEASE PASS US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAG: SENV, BL

SUBJECT: USA PROPOSAL TO TREAT EIGHT SPECIES OF CROCADYLIA AS
ENDANGERED

REF: STATE A-2925

FOLLOWING ARE GOB COMMENTS ON SUBJECT PROPOSAL. REGRET DELAY IN
TRANSMITTING. BEGIN QUOTE BOLIVIA'S INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IS JUST
BEGINNING AND ITS ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION TO THE COUNTRY'S
BALANCE OF PAYMENTS IS IMPORTANT.

BOLIVIA HAS THREE SPECIALIZED COMPANIES ENGAGED IN TANNING AND
TREATMENT OF SAURIEAN SKINS. THESE COMPANIES ARE WORKING UNDER THE
NAME OF ASICUSA (ASOCIACION DE INDUSTRIAS CURTIORAS DE SAURIOS) WITH
HEADQUARTERS IN COCHABAMBA. THIS ASSOCIATION OBTAINS RIGHTS FOR
HUNTING AND UTILIZATION OF SAURIAN SKINS, HAVING PREVIOUSLY PAID
STATE TAXES, UNDER STRICT CONTROL OF QUOTAS WHICH GUARANTEE THE
RATIONAL USE OF THIS SPECIES WITHOUT JEOPARDIZING ITS BIOLOGICAL
POTENTIAL. BECAUSE OF THE SPECIAL TREATMENT THESE SKINS REQUIRE,
THE COMPANIES HAVE PURCHASED SPECIAL MACHINERY AND ARE, BY MEANS
OF ADEQUATE TRAINING IN BOLIVIA AND OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY, PRE-
PARING THEIR TECHNICAL PERSONNEL WHICH, IN MOST CASES, BECOME
PARTNERS OF THE COMPANIES AND ARE NOT JUST LABORERS.

LIMITATION OR ELIMINATION OF ALLIGATORS' (AND CROCODILES) SKIN
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LA PAZ 07278 122120Z

TANNING WOULD CREATE A LABOR PROBLEM WITH NEGATIVE CON-
SEQUENCES FOR THE BOLIVIAN GOVERNMENT.

BOLIVIA IS AWARE OF THIS PROBLEM AND SAFEGUARDS THE CONSERVATION
IBH NATURE AND ITS FLORA AND FAUNA. THIS HAS BEEN DEMONSTRATED
BY ITS PERMANENT PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES
AND ITS CONCURRENCE WITH INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS, SUCH AS THE
1973 WASHINGTON CONVENTION SIGNED BY (BOLIVIA), AND ITS

PARTICIPATION IN IUCN AND WWF, AS WELL AS IN THE UNITED NATIONS, FAO, UNESCO, MAB, CNRS (FRANCE), ETC. WE ARE AWARE OF THE RISK OF EXTINCTION OF THE SAURIAN. IN THIS REGARD, MEASURES ARE BEING ADOPTED TO ESTABLISH BREEDING AND RE-POPULATION CENTERS, LIMIT BY QUOTAS, ANNUAL HUNTING AND FORBIDDING HUNTING DURING THE PERIOD OF MATING AND NESTLING.

THE STATE HAS ORGANIZED THE NATIONAL BREEDING AND REPOPULATION CENTER FOR SAURIAN IN THE ISIBORO-SECURE NATIONAL PARK. ABOUT 90 PER CENT OF THE BUDGET FOR THIS PROJECT IS SUPPORTED BY ASICUSA. IN THE EVENT THERE IS A REDUCTION IN MARKET, THE GOV WOULD HAVE TO ACCEPT A SMALLER CONTRIBUTION FOR THE REPOPULATION PROGRAMS.

ARTICLE 25 OF THE GENERAL LAW OF WILDLIFE, NO. 12301, DATED MARCH 14, 1975, ESTABLISHED THAT COMPANIES BENEFITING FROM AND TANNING WILD ANIMAL SKINS SHOULD MAINTAIN BREEDING CENTERS. THIS IS PRESENTLY BEING DONE.

IN VIEW OF THE ABOVE CONSIDERATIONS, THE BOLIVIAN GOVERNMENT PRESENTLY ISSUES HUNTING PERMITS AND AUTHORIZES EXPORTATION OF ALLIGATORS TANNED SKINS. THE ELIMINATION OF THE AMERICAN MARKET IN THE TANNED CROCODILE SKINS INDUSTRY WOULD BE A SERIOUS DETRIMENT TO BOLIVIA'S ECONOMY.

WE RECOMMEND THAT A PERIOD OF TIME WHEN HUNTING OF SMALL SAURIANS WOULD BE FORBIDDEN BE ESTABLISHED INTERNATIONALLY. THIS WOULD APPLY ESPECIALLY TO THOSE ANIMALS SMALLER THAN THE REQUIRED SIZE, SINCE THE UTILIZATION OF YOUNG ANIMALS'

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 LA PAZ 07278 122120Z

SKINS INCREASES THE POSSIBILITY OF SMUGGLING, AND DRAMATICALLY LIMTS THE BIOLOGICAL/ECOLOGICAL RECUPERATION AND EQUILBRIUM OF THIS SPECIES. END QUOTE
SCAFE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, ENDANGERED SPECIES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LAPAZ07278
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770330-0458
Format: TEL
From: LA PAZ
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770975/aaaacbcc.tel
Line Count: 98
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 390f8648-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION INT
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE A-2925
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1310541
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: USA PROPOSAL TO TREAT EIGHT SPECIES OF CROCADYLIA AS ENDANGERED
TAGS: SENV, BL, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/390f8648-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009